

efforts and others, it is not getting the ability to serve liquor on Sunday, but it is getting a heck of a lot else already this year. As I understand the prospective DeCamp amendment, it would give Ak-Sar-Ben about an additional \$800,000 this year. Now I think that that is too much. I think that we should wait and see whether this competition that Senator Harris and others are talking about is going to materialize. Let's wait first and see if Ak-Sar-Ben, in fact, is going to be hurt by this competition before we go about giving them the exemptions in anticipation of the competition. I think Ak-Sar-Ben is doing fine. They are getting a lot out of this bill already. They are getting Sunday racing this year. That is enough. Let's say no. Let's not delay this bill and get on with it this morning. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, as you know, my home town is Grand Island, Nebraska. I, too, have to support Senator DeCamp or Senator Conway's amendment now. I can only speak not to...I guess I can only say enough for Fonner Park. They, in the past year, held over 400 events, public events for the good of the community, for our 4-H, for our fairs, and so on and so forth. I, too, am interested in making this a viable business. I think that we must see the handwriting on the wall that if we are to continue to have them be a taxpayer, I know they are kind of caught in between Lincoln and Atokad, Columbus. I guess I hate to see that maybe Ak-Sar-Ben is getting too good a benefit on this. But on the other hand, I do know that our Fonner Park has to remain competitive. If we don't, we are not going to get the class of horses that we have there now. Thanks a lot.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've been discussing horse racing across the state, and in particular Ak-Sar-Ben. I think some of you have heard me, from time to time, express my opinions of Ak-Sar-Ben. But I thought the issue before us right now...and I'd like to ask all of you senators to give me your attention on this particular subject, particularly Senator Warner whose been here longer than any other senator. What we have before us is a senator's request to lay a bill over. I don't recall if he